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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHKL #0361 1300818
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 090818Z MAY 08
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0948
INFO RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1570

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 000361

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

GENEVA FOR USTR
STATE PASS USTR

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [KIPR](#) [AORC](#) [ETRD](#) [PREL](#) [MY](#)
SUBJECT: WIPO DIRECTOR GENERAL ELECTION

REF: SECSTATE 47557

¶1. (U) Econ Counselor and econoff met with Kamel Mohamad, Director General, Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (Malaysia's USPTO equivalent), on May 9 to deliver reftel demarche in advance of the May 13-14 WIPO meeting to select the organization's Director General nominee. Kamel is leading Malaysia's delegation to the WIPO meeting.

¶2. (SBU) Kamel told us that Malaysia continues to consider which of the 15 WIPO DG candidates to support. He said that he is not under internal government pressure to support a candidate based on regional (such as ASEAN) or developing country status. He noted that Malaysia would be happy with either Francis Gurry of Australia or Yo Takagi of Japan, though he voiced concern that selecting Takagi might cause Gurry to leave WIPO. Kamel also spoke positively about Kenya's candidate, James Otieno Odek.

KEITH